

San Diego City Attorney MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 16, 2005

Contact: Maria Velasquez, Communications Director: (619) 235-5725 (pager & voicemail) mvelasquez@sandiego.gov

City Attorney Response to Statement by Deputy Mayor Atkins

Ms. Atkin's statement regarding the City Attorney's Wastewater Report No. 1 is incorrect. The lawsuit against the City seeks millions of dollars in damages for the citizens of San Diego, not against the citizens of San Diego. During a seven-year period (1998-2004) City Officials maintained a sewer rate structure that overcharged City of San Diego residents more than \$120 million and lower rates for large commercial users of the system. What has caused the citizens of San Diego to suffer millions of dollars in damages is the misconduct of Ms. Atkin's and her colleagues not the disclosure that they violated State and Federals laws.

Michael Aguirre San Diego City Attorney